



APA citation style refers to the rules and conventions established by the American Psychological Association for documenting sources used in a research paper. APA style requires two elements for citing outside sources: Reference Citations in Text and a Reference List. Together these elements identify and credit the sources consulted in the paper and allow others to access or retrieve this material.

The examples of APA styles and formats listed on this page include many of the most common types of sources used in academic research. For additional examples and more detailed information about APA citation style, refer to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* and the *APA Style Guide to Electronic References*. Copies are available at Africana, Geneva, Nestlé (Hotel), Catherwood (ILR), Law, Management, Mann, Olin, Physical Sciences, and Uris libraries.

Also, for automatic generation of citations in appropriate citation style, use a bibliographic citation management program such as Refworks or EndNote. Ask a librarian how to set up an account. You can find more information on this in our Citation Tools guide or the citation management help page.

Reference Citations in Text

In APA style, citations to sources are placed in the text of the paper in order to briefly identify sources for readers and enable them to locate the source of the cited information in the Reference List. These parenthetical (in text) references include the author's last name and the year of publication enclosed in parentheses. Citations are placed within sentences and paragraphs so that it is clear what information is being quoted or paraphrased and whose information is being cited.

Examples:

Works by a Single Author

The last name of the author and the year of publication are inserted in the text at the appropriate point.

from theory on bounded rationality (Simon, 1945)

If the name of the author or the date appear as part of the narrative cite only missing information in parentheses.

Simon (1945) posited that

In 1945 Simon posited that

Works by Multiple Authors

When a work has two authors, always cite both names every time the reference occurs in the text. In parenthetical material join the names with an ampersand (&).

as has been shown (Leiter & Maslach, 1998)

In the narrative text, join the names with the word "and."

as Leiter and Maslach (1998) demonstrated

When a work has three, four, or five authors, cite all authors the first time the reference occurs.

Kahneman, Knetsch, & Thaler (1991) found

In all subsequent citations per paragraph, include only the surname of the first author followed by "et al." (Latin for "and others") and the year of publication.

Kahneman et al. (1991) found

Works by Associations, Corporations, Government Agencies, etc.

The names of groups that serve as authors (corporate authors) are usually written out each time they appear in a text reference.

(National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH], 2007)

When appropriate, the names of some corporate authors are spelled out in the first reference and abbreviated in all subsequent citations. The general rule for abbreviating in this manner is to supply enough information in the text citation for a reader to locate its source in the Reference List without difficulty.

(NIMH, 2007)

Works with No Author

When a work has no author, use the first two or three words of the work's title (omitting any initial articles) as your text reference, capitalizing each word.

Guide to agricultural meteorological practices (1981)

Place the title in quotation marks if it refers to an article or chapter of a book, or italicize it if it refers to a book, periodical, brochure, or report.

on climate change ("Climate and Weather," 1997)

Anonymous authors should be listed as such followed by a comma and the date.

on climate change (Anonymous, 2008)

Specific Parts of a Source

To cite a specific part of a source (always necessary for quotations), include the page, chapter, etc. (with appropriate abbreviations) in the in-text citation.

(Stigter & Das, 1981, p. 96)

De Waal (1996) overstated the case when he asserted that "we seem to be reaching ... from the hands of philosophers" (p. 218).

If page numbers are not included in electronic sources, provide the paragraph number preceded by the paragraph symbol or the heading and following paragraph.

(Mönnich & Spiering, 2008 ¶ 9)

Reference List

References cited in the text of a research paper must appear in a Reference List or bibliography. This list provides the information necessary to identify and retrieve each source.

- Entries should be arranged in alphabetical order by authors' last names. Sources without authors are arranged alphabetically by title within the same list.
- Write out the last name and initials for all authors of a particular work.
- Capitalize only the first word of a title or subtitle, and any proper names that are part of a title.
- Use an ampersand (&) instead of the word "and" when listing multiple authors of a single work.
- Use the abbreviation p. or pp. to designate page numbers of articles from periodicals that do not use volume numbers, especially newspapers. These abbreviations are also used to designate pages in encyclopedia articles and chapters from edited books.
- Indentation *: The first line of the entry is flush with the left margin, and all subsequent lines are indented (5 to 7 spaces) to form a "hanging indent".
- Underlining vs. Italics *: It is appropriate to use italics instead of underlining for titles of books and journals.

* The APA has special formatting standards for the use of indentation and italics in manuscripts or papers that will be typeset or submitted for official publication. For more detailed information on these publication standards, refer to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, or consult with your instructors or editors to determine their style preferences.

Examples:

Articles in Journals, Magazines, and Newspapers

References to periodical articles must include the following elements: author(s), date of publication, article title, journal title, volume number, issue number (if applicable), and page numbers.

Journal Article, one author

Sweeny, K. (2008). Crisis decision theory: Decisions in the face of negative events. *Psychological Bulletin*, 134(1), 61-76.

Journal Article, two authors

Sanchez, D. & King-Toler, E. (2007). Addressing disparities consultation and outreach strategies for university settings. *Consulting Psychology Journal: Practice and Research*, 59(4), 286-295.

Journal Article, more than two authors

Van Vugt, M., Hogan, R., & Kaiser, R. B. (2008). Leadership, followership, and evolution: Some lessons from the past. *American Psychologist*, 63(3), 182-196.

Magazine article

Kluger, J. (2008, January 28). Why we love. *Time*, 171(4), 54-60.

Newspaper article, no author

As prices surge, Thailand pitches OPEC-style rice cartel. (2008, May 5). *The Wall Street Journal*, p. A9.

Newspaper article, multiple authors, discontinuous pages

Delaney, K. J., Karnitschnig, M., & Guth, R. A. (2008, May 5). Microsoft ends pursuit of Yahoo, reassesses its online options. *The Wall Street Journal*, pp. A1, A12.

Books

References to an entire book must include the following elements: author(s) or editor(s), date of publication, title, place of publication, and the name of the publisher.

No Author or Editor

Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary (11th ed.). (2003). Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster.

One Author

Kidder, T. (1981). *The soul of a new machine*. Boston: Little, Brown & Company.

Two Authors

Frank, R. H., & Bernanke, B. (2007). *Principles of macro-economics* (3rd ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill/Irwin.

Corporate Author, Author as Publisher

Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2000). *Tasmanian year book 2000* (no. 1301.6). Canberra, Australian Capital Territory: Author.

Edited book

Gibbs, J. T., & Huang, L. N. (Eds.). (2001). *Children of color: psychological interventions with culturally diverse youth*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Essays or Chapters in Edited Books

References to an essay or chapter in an edited book must include the following elements: essay or chapter authors, date of publication, essay or chapter title, book editor(s), book title, essay or chapter page numbers, place of publication, and the name of the publisher.

One Author

Labajo, J. (2003). Body and voice: The construction of gender in flamenco. In T. Magrini (Ed.), *Music and gender: perspectives from the Mediterranean* (pp. 67-86). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Two Editors

Hammond, K. R. & Adelman, L. (1986). Science, values, and human judgment. In H. R. Arkes & K. R. Hammond (Eds.) *Judgement and Decision Making: An Interdisciplinary Reader* (pp. 127-143). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Encyclopedias or Dictionaries and Entries in an Encyclopedia

References for encyclopedias must include the following elements: author(s) or editor(s), date of publication, title, place of publication, and the name of the publisher.

Encyclopedia set or dictionary

Sadie, S., & Tyrrell, J. (Eds.). (2002). *The new Grove dictionary of music and musicians* (2nd ed., Vols. 1-29). New York: Grove.

Encyclopedia article

Kinni, T. B. (2004). Disney, Walt (1901-1966): Founder of the Walt Disney Company. In *Encyclopedia of Leadership* (Vol. 1, pp. 345-349). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Technical and Research Reports

References to a report must include the following elements: author(s), date of publication, title, place of publication, and name of publisher. If the issuing organization assigned a number (e.g., report number, contract number, or monograph number) to the report, give that number in parentheses immediately after the title. Additional information is included when a report is published by the Government Printing Office (GPO) or when it is available from a document deposit service such as NTIS or ERIC.

Government report

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2005). *Medicaid drug price comparisons: Average manufacturer price to published prices* (OIG publication No. OEI-05-05-00240). Washington, DC: Author.

Government report, GPO Publisher

Congressional Budget Office (2008). *Effects of gasoline prices on driving behavior and vehicle markets: A CBO study* (CBO Publication No. 2883). Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

Technical and/or Research Reports

Deming, D. & Dynarski, S. (2008). *The lengthening of childhood* (NBER Working Paper 14124). Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research. Retrieved July 21, 2008, from <http://www.nber.org/papers/w14124>

Audio-Visual Media

References to audio-visual media must include the following elements: name and function of the primary contributors (e.g., producer, director), date, title, the medium in brackets, location or place of production, and name of the distributor. If the medium is indicated as part of the retrieval ID, brackets are not needed (see example for Audio Recording).

Videocassette/DVD

Achbar, M. (Director/Producer), Abbott, J. (Director), Bakan, J. (Writer), & Simpson, B. (Producer) (2004). *The corporation* [DVD]. Canada: Big Picture Media Corporation.

Audio Recording

Nhat Hanh, T. (Speaker). (1998). *Mindful living: a collection of teachings on love, mindfulness, and meditation* (Cassette Recording). Boulder, CO: Sounds True Audio.

Motion Picture

Gilbert, B. (Producer), & Higgins, C. (Screenwriter/Director). (1980). *Nine to five* [Motion Picture]. United States: Twentieth Century Fox.

Television Broadcast

Anderson, R. & Morgan, C. (Producers). (2008, June 20). *60 Minutes* [Television broadcast]. Washington, DC: CBS News.

Television Show from a Series

Whedon, J. (Director/Writer). (1999, December 14). Hush [Television series episode]. In Whedon, J., Berman, G., Gallin, S., Kuzui, F., & Kuzui, K. (Executive Producers) *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. Burbank, CA: Warner Bros.

Music Recording

Jackson, M. (1982). Beat it. On *Thriller* [CD]. New York: Sony Music.

Electronic Media and Online Sources

Keep in mind the main objective of citing sources is to provide readers with enough information to locate your source materials. That being said, when citing electronic media you should 1) Direct readers as closely as possible to the information being cited – e.g. reference specific documents rather than home or menu pages; 2) Provide Internet addresses that work.

Your citations should include a document or title description, a date (either the publication date, update, or date of retrieval), and an address (URL or DOI). See the *APA Style Guide to Electronic References* for information on how to format URLs that take up more than one line. Whenever possible, identify the authors of the document as well.

Internet articles based on a print source (exists in print and online) with a DOI

Ku, G. (2008). Learning to de-escalate: The effects of regret in escalation of commitment [Electronic version]. *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, 105(2), 221-232. doi:10.1016/j.obhdp.2007.08.002

Article in an Internet-only journal

Moerman, D. E. (2003, June). "Placebo" versus "meaning": The case for a change in our use of language. *Prevention & Treatment*, 6(1). doi:10.1037/1522-3736.6.1.67c

Journal article from a database, no DOI

Colvin, G. (2008, July 21). Information worth billions. *Fortune*, 158(2), 73-79. Retrieved from Business Source Premier database.

Article from an online encyclopedia

Containerization. (2008). In *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Retrieved May 6, 2008, from Encyclopædia Britannica Online: <http://search.eb.com>

Professional web site

National Renewable Energy Laboratory. (2008). *Biofuels*. Retrieved May 6, 2008, from: http://www.nrel.gov/learning/re_biofuels.html

Document available on university program or department site

Victor, N. M. (2008). *Gazprom: Gas giant under strain*. Retrieved July 2, 2008, from Stanford University, Program on Energy and Sustainable Development Web site: http://pesd.stanford.edu/publications/gazprom_gas_giant_under_strain/

Entire web site

When citing an entire web site (and not a specific document on that site), no Reference List entry is required if the address for the site is cited in the text of your paper.

Witchcraft In Europe and America is a site that presents the full text of many essential works in the literature of witchcraft and demonology (<http://www.witchcraft.psmedia.com/>).

Blog entry

Arrington, M. (2008, August 5). The viral video guy gets \$1 million in funding. Retrieved from <http://www.techcrunch.com>

Find the most up-to-date information about APA citation style for electronic media as well as APA's responses to queries about APA citation style on their website: <http://www.apastyle.org>. For more detailed information on APA citation style such as information on articles in press, unpublished works, translations, data files, revised books, et cetera see the Publication manual of the American Psychological Association and the APA Style Guide to Electronic References.

Other citation guides and useful web sites:

Purdue University Online Writing Lab's APA Formatting and Style Guide
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

Harnack & Kleppinger's Online! a reference guide to using internet sources
<http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/index.html>

Landmark's Son of Citation Machine
<http://citationmachine.net/>